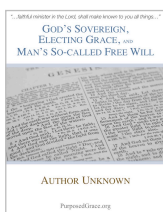


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

March 3rd, 2019

Beloved, “ye are complete in
HIM, which is the head of all
principality and power”

(COLOSSIANS 2:10)



New on our bookshelf... Author Unknown

God's Sovereign, Electing Grace

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**Sunday mornings beginning at 10 am,
and Wednesday evenings at 7 pm**

Services in Spanish Sunday evenings at 6 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

This evening's podcast will be from our PASTOR

JOHN 13:18-30 — THE BETRAYER

Recorded on Sunday morning, January 28th, 2018

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY!

"FOR GOD, WHO COMMANDED THE LIGHT TO SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS, HATH SHINED INTO OUR HEARTS, TO GIVE US THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST" (2 CORINTHIANS 4:6)

This is a glorious confession of faith, worthy to be wrote in letters of gold, and set with the most precious jewels, and ever to be worn as the believer's ornament and glory. For here is the rich display of sovereign grace, and the glory of almighty power, in producing light in the hearts of sinners, who are by nature not only in the dark, but even darkness itself. The knowledge of Jesus is commanded by the same omnipotent agent, who called forth light in the beginning, upon this dark terraqueous globe. Light gladdens the whole creation of nature; and this spiritual light causes joy in the soul; for it gives the knowledge of God's glory. In what respect? that God is glorious in majesty? O this strikes us with horror. Glorious in power? That fills us with terror. Glorious in holiness? This causes despair. So every attribute and perfection of Jehovah would sink sinners into dread, astonishment, and death. But here is our relief, 'It is the knowledge of the glory of God, in the person of the anointed Saviour.' In HIM, God's glorious favor, eternal love, everlasting counsel of peace, covenant of grace, promises of mercy, scheme of salvation, shine with the most resplendent luster. Hence pardon, love, peace, joy, holiness, hope, security, heaven in possession, glory in reversion; all, all center in the person of JESUS. Thus we behold the glory of God. God in HIM. This is the only comfortable knowledge, the only reviving experience of the Christian heart. And here we see how inseparably connected God's

glory and his people's comforts are. Each leads to the other, and both tend to lay sinners low in humility, and sink them to nothing before a sovereign, gracious Lord. Could a dark chaos contribute any thing to the production of light? Canst thou, O worm of the earth, exert any power to cause that glorious luminary, the sun, to send forth its reviving beams of light? No, the first is by the command of the sovereign agent; the latter acts by the laws of its wise Creator. So as to spiritual light, saving knowledge, it is given to those who sought it not; it is made manifest to them who asked not after it. What then becomes of terms and conditions of salvation? O thou once spiritually blind and dead soul, if God hath commanded the light and knowledge of Jesus in thine heart, all boasting is excluded, all glorying in self is at an end. Surely thou wilt say—Thine is the power; to thee, to thee alone, Jehovah, be all the glory!

[PASTOR] WILLIAM MASON

EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS BE PERFECT

"FOR I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EXCEPT YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SHALL EXCEED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES, YE SHALL IN NO CASE ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN" (MATTHEW 5:20)

Beloved, it is by the doing and dying of Christ that we are saved. Indeed, through the death of His sin atoning blood and the life of His perfect righteousness as our substitute, we are and **SHALL BE SAVED.** (MATTHEW 1:21)

It is not enough that you have your sins forgiven, in fact you must be made the perfect righteousness of God! Through Christ, through His perfect life as a man, our Heavenly Father *made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him* (2 COR 5:21).

All the Scribes, all the Popes, all the Buddhas, Mohamed and all who followed them—all needed a righteousness that exceeded their own to go to heaven; they needed the perfect righteousness of Christ. God give you grace to hear and believe His Son, for without His righteousness, no one comes to the Father, as our Lord plainly tells us *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me"* (JOHN 14:6).

Beloved, it is by the doing and dying of the Lord Jesus Christ that we are saved—for if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life (ROMANS 5:10).

To you who believe; rest with us, for we have received double of the Lord's hand! Not only do we have a full and complete forgiveness of all our sins; much more beloved, He has removed our iniquity from us and clothed us with His perfect life; indeed His perfect righteousness. AMEN! (GENESIS 3:21; ISAIAH 40:1-2, 54:17; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)

REMEMBER

“...REMEMBER...” (EPHESIANS 2:11-13)

What is it to be found before a Holy God without Christ? In one word, RUINED! Now, what does that mean? It means much more than being broken. You see, when I have something that is broken, I still have hope that maybe I can fix it. God's people have been made to see, in the light of Christ, that apart from Him, they are ruined with no hope of any self remedy.

In Ephesians chapter 2 the Holy Spirit calls us to remember, that at that time we were without Christ. The prophet declares *“Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged”* (ISAIAH 51:1).

Keep this in your remembrance beloved, the rock whence you were hewn, and the hole of the pit whence you were digged. Remember the tomb of unbelief from which you were brought forth.

Friend, you and I will never be able to value the Lord's righteousness until we have been convinced that we have no righteousness of our own! Then, once convinced by the Holy Spirit, Christ will be revealed to be our all and in all—when we feel, and know, and are convinced of our utter and complete poverty before the Lord—then, if God be pleased, in Christ, *He is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption, That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the LORD.* (1 C 1:30)

Beloved, remember your former ruined and dead state without Christ. Praise the Lord for your everlasting, blessed, and secure state, in Him! Remember that though you are deserving of His wrath, even as others; in Christ you have been saved with an everlasting salvation because He has loved you with an everlasting love!

Believing sinner, the prophet declares of your salvation: *“The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee”* (JEREMIAH 31:3)

Beloved, remember we are not the children of the devil, but the children of God, and He has drawn us with lovingkindness—not wrath. And why is that? God's word says *“...because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”* (GALATIANS 4:6)

We have received the gift of the Spirit, so we cry Abba Father, because we have always been His children! While that didn't seem true in our experience, in the covenant grace, we have always been His children; indeed from before the foundation of the world.

In our experience we were dead, in one word—ruined, but in the covenant of grace we have been everlastingly redeemed according to His own purpose and grace given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. AMEN! (Read 2 TIMOTHY 1:8-11, ACTS 13:47-48)